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09/926,113	09/04/2001	Noritaka Kusumoto	011119	2411

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EXAMINER	
CHAWAN, VIJAY B	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2654	

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/926,113	KUSUMOTO, NORITAKA	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Vijay B. Chawan	2654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/04/01.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 4-19 are objected to because of the following informalities: there appear to be missing word(s) between "means" and "recognizing" etc. Should it be "means ***for*** recognizing"? Errors such as these are present throughout the claim language and should be addressed.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoard et al., (6,513,006).

As per claim 1, Howard et al., teach a device setting apparatus comprising:

voice input means converting an input voice to a voice signal (Col.4, lines 23-32);

voice recognition means for recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col.4, lines 23-32);

storage means for storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.4, lines 44-48); and,

setting means for reading multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition means from said storage means and performing multiple device setting in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.3, lines 28-45).

As per claim 2, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said setting means includes internal device setting means performing multiple device setting in said device setting apparatus (Col.3, lines 28-45).

As per claim 3, Howard et al., teaches the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said device setting apparatus is connected with an external device in a bidirectionally communicable state, and said setting means includes external device

setting means performing multiple device setting on said external device (Col.3, lines 28-55).

As per claim 4, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising registration means registering multiple device setting information associated with a new voice in said storage means (Col.4, lines 44-48).

As per claim 5, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said registration means further includes display means displaying a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice, and selection means for selecting a word corresponding to a voice to be registered from said plurality of words displayed on said display means, and said registration means registers said word selected word by said selection means in said storage means in association with multiple device setting information (Col.6, lines 31-54).

As per claim 6, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said selection means further includes receiving means for receiving a remote control signal transmitted to said device setting means, and said selection means for performing selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiving means (Col.3, lines 28-33).

As per claim 7, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said registration means further includes, character display means for displaying a plurality of characters for forming a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice, and selection means for selecting a character forming a word corresponding to a voice to be registered from said plurality of characters displayed on

said character display means, and said registration means for registering said word formed by said character selected by said selection means in said storage means in association with multiple device setting information (Col.4, lines 38-48).

As per claim 8, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said selection means further includes receiving means for receiving a remote control signal transmitted to said device setting apparatus, and said selection means for performing selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiving means (Col.3, lines 28-33, Col.1, line 66 – Col.2, line 10).

As per claim 9, Howard et al., teach the device setting apparatus according to claim 4, wherein, said registration means further includes acquisition means for acquiring multiple device setting information, and selection means for selecting multiple device setting information associated with a new voice from said multiple device setting information acquired by said acquisition means, and, said registration means registers said multiple device setting information selected by said selection means in said storage means in association with said new voice (Col.1, line 60 – Col.2, line 36).

As per claim 10, Howard et al., teach the device apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said selection means further includes receiving means receiving a remote control signal transmitted to said device setting apparatus, and, said selection means performs selection in response to said remote control signal received by said receiving means (Col.3, lines 28-33).

As per claim 11, Howard et al., teaches a device setting system comprising a device setting apparatus, and a set device connected with said device setting apparatus

in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.3, lines 28-55), wherein said device setting apparatus includes:

voice input means converting an input voice to a voice signal (Col.4, lines 23-32);

voice recognition means for recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col.4, lines 23-32);

storage means for storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.4, lines 44-48); and,

setting means reading multiple device setting information corresponding to said voice recognized by said voice recognition means from said storage means and performing multiple device setting of said set device in response to said read multiple device setting information (Col.3, lines 28-45).

As per claim 12, Howard et al., teach the device setting system according to claim 11, wherein said set device includes a remote control device for remote-controlling said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.3, lines 28-55).

As per claim 13, Howard et al., teach a recording medium recording a device setting program for making a processing unit perform device setting in a device setting apparatus having said processing unit, voice input means converting an input voice signal and storage means storing multiple device setting information associated with a single voice (Col.6, lines 31-54), wherein said device setting program causes said processing unit perform steps of:

recognizing a voice corresponding to said voice signal converted by said voice input means (Col4, lines 23-32, 44-48); and,

reading multiple device setting information corresponding to the recognized said voice from said storage means and performing multiple device setting in response to read said multiple device setting information (Col.3,lines 28-45).

As per claim 14, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said setting step includes a step of performing multiple device setting in said device setting apparatus (Col.3, lines 28-45).

As per claim 15, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said setting step includes a step of performing multiple device setting on an external device connected with said device setting apparatus in a bidirectionally communicable state (Col.3, lines 28-55).

As per claim 16, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said device setting program further causes said processing unit to perform steps of displaying a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice and registering a word selected from displayed said plurality of words in said storage means as a new voice in association with multiple device setting information (Col4, lines 44-48).

As per claim 17, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 16, wherein said registering step includes steps of acquiring multiple device setting information and registering multiple device setting

information in said storage means in association with said new voice (Col.4, lines 44-48).

As per claim 18, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 13, wherein said device setting program further causes said processing unit to perform steps of displaying a plurality of characters for forming a plurality of words corresponding to a registrable voice and registering a word formed by a character selected from displayed said plurality of characters in said storage means as a new voice in association with multiple device setting information (Col.4, lines 38-48).

As per claim 19, Howard et al., teach the recording medium recording a device setting program according to claim 18, wherein said registering step includes steps of acquiring multiple device setting information and registering said multiple device setting information selected from said acquired said multiple device setting information in said storage means in association with said new voice (Col.1, line 60 – Col.2, line 36).

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

King (6,532,446) teaches server based speech recognition user interface for wireless devices.

Handelman (6,654,721) teaches voice activated communication system and program guide.

Bennett et al., (6,633,846) teaches distributed realtime speech recognition system.

Geilhufe et al., (6,584,439) teach a method and apparatus for controlling voice controlled devices.

Salazar et al., (5,774,841) teach real-time reconfigurable adaptive speech recognition command and control apparatus and method.

Launey et al., (5,086,385) teach an expandable home automation system.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Vijay B. Chawan whose telephone number is (571) 272-7601. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday Through Friday 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571) 272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Vijay B. Chawan
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2654

vbc
6/22/05

VIJAY CHAWAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER